

## **City of Orlando**

### **Take Action Against Graffiti Program**

Graffiti is a malicious form of vandalism that destroys public and private property. It is not accepted in the City of Orlando and is taken seriously when it occurs. If you see graffiti, immediately report it. If you see suspicious activity or someone in the act of the crime, call the Orlando Police Department at 321.235.5300. It takes a community effort to stop graffiti – do your part!

Policies, Procedure, and Conditions

#### **Purpose**

The City of Orlando Take Action Against Graffiti (TAAG) Program is designed to assist in the removal abatement, and prevention of graffiti throughout the City of Orlando. The TAAG Program provides financial assistance to business owners and private property owners to promptly remove unwanted graffiti from buildings that are visible from the right-of-way.

#### **Program Structure and Criteria**

The Economic Development Department, Business Development Division, shall oversee the City of Orlando TAAG Program. The TAAG Program shall reimburse property owners and business owners up to 80% of the cost of graffiti removal and mitigation up to a maximum of \$4,000, once per calendar year, per property. Funding is based on budget availability and will be considered on a “first come, first served basis.” Those needing assistance in the downtown CRA area must apply for the DTO TAAG Program available through the DDB/CRA Division and may not combine funds with this program.

Funding may be awarded under the following conditions:

- Location is within the City of Orlando
- Property must be commercial, office, or multi-family residential (containing four (4) or more units)
- Graffiti must be visible from the right-of-way
- Business/property owner must implement graffiti-resistant paint or graffiti-resistant coating, where appropriate, and at least one (1) other mitigation measure(s) to include:
  - Planting shrubs and thorny plants adjacent to the building
  - Planting shrubs, thorny plants, and vines along free-standing walls and fences
  - Adding or improving lighting around the building
  - Adding security camera(s) and surveillance signage
  - Adding permitted and approved murals
  - Additional mitigation measures may be approved at the City’s sole discretion

Applications must include a minimum of two (2) bids each for graffiti removal and graffiti mitigation. The scope of work must specify the method of graffiti removal. Graffiti removal may be done by pressure washing, and use of graffiti removal solvents, and must be painted with graffiti paint where appropriate. Graffiti removal must be completed within fourteen (14) days of application approval for reimbursement. All graffiti mitigation work must be completed within 90 days of application approval for reimbursement.

The funding awarded will be based on the qualified bids submitted by the applicant. The owner and/or applicant may elect to choose a contractor other than the one approved but shall be responsible for all costs exceeding the lowest qualified bid. In all cases, the selected contractor must be licensed and insured. The city will not be responsible in any manner for the selection of a contractor. A property owner and/or tenant should pursue all activities necessary to determine contractor qualifications, quality of workmanship, and reputation. The applicant will bear full responsibility for the competence and abilities of prospective contractors and secure proof of their licensing and insurance coverage.

### **Procedures**

1. Call the Orlando Police Department non-emergency line at: 321.235.5300 to report the crime.
2. Report graffiti at <https://www.orlando.gov/Report-a-Problem/Report-a-Parks-and-Beautification-Problem/Report-Graffiti>, by email at [keeporlandobeautiful@orlando.gov](mailto:keeporlandobeautiful@orlando.gov) or the graffiti hotline at: 407.254.4723.
3. Obtain bids for graffiti removal and graffiti mitigation
4. Submit the City of Orlando Take Action Against Graffiti Program application with bids to the Program Coordinator. Either the property owner or business owner may apply, however, if the property owner receives a code violation, the property owner must apply within 30 days of notice of violation, unless otherwise approved by Division Manager.
5. Complete all work within 14 days of application approval for graffiti removal and 90 days for additional graffiti mitigation measures.
6. The applicant must return the building to its original state (same paint color/design). The applicant must obtain any necessary permits for additional graffiti mitigation if required. If the applicant is adding a mural, the applicant may be required to obtain approvals from either the Appearance Review Board (ARB) or Historic Preservation Board (HPB).

### **Disbursements**

Funds will generally be provided upon completion of the project. Reimbursements will be made according to City's accounting procedures with funds disbursed to the awardee. All funds shall be issued to the awardee on a reimbursement basis only.

### **Disclosures**

The City expressly reserves the right to reject any and all applications or to request additional information from any and all applicants and awardees. The City retains the right to amend the program guidelines and amend the application procedures. The City also retains the right to display and advertise properties that receive funds under this program.